

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 3-10, 12, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kerho et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 3,924,442) in view of C.D. Paulsell, P.E., "The Use Of Exponential Dilution Flow In Gas Analyzer Calibrations," U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Ann Arbor, MI 48105.

With regard to claim 1, Kerho et al. fail to show, teach, or suggest supplying a calibration mixture to both a first gas analyzer and a second gas analyzer, wherein the calibration mixture includes a span gas **and** a non-reactive zero gas. As best understood by Applicants, Kerho et al. supplies a calibration mixture to a first gas analyzer and a second gas analyzer wherein the calibration mixture is **either** a span gas **or** a non-reactive zero gas.

Paulsell fails to cure the deficient teachings of Kerho. As best understood by Applicants, Paulsell discusses exponential dilution. Exponential dilution is derived from a characteristic that occurs when a span gas is suddenly switched to a non-reactive zero gas. Switching from the span gas to the non-reactive zero gas causes the span gas concentration to exponentially decay to zero. Applicants can find no mention of supplying a calibration mixture to both a first gas analyzer and a second gas analyzer, wherein the calibration mixture includes **both** a span gas **and** a non-reactive zero gas.

In order to find an invention obvious in light of a combination of references, there must be something present in the teachings of those references to suggest the claimed invention to one skilled in the art. *W.L. Gore & Assoc. v. Garlock*, 721 F.2d 1540, 1551 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Both references cited by Examiner teach of supplying a mixture that is **either** a span gas **or** a non-reactive zero gas, but not both. The mixture may be switched from the span gas to the non-reactive gas or vice versa. Thus, both references teach away from supplying **both** a span gas **and** a non-reactive zero gas. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-10, 12, and 15-16 each ultimately depend on claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least similar reasons.

Claim 17 is allowable for at least similar reasons as claim 1. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 18-19 each ultimately depend on claim 17 and are therefore allowable for at least similar reasons.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

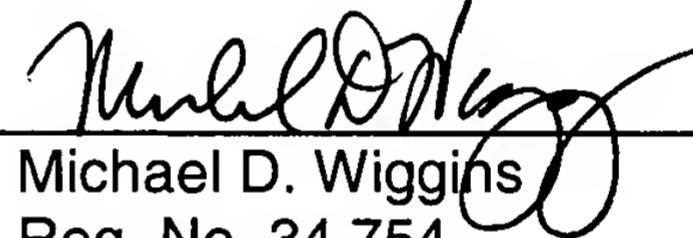
The Examiner states that claims 2, 11, 13, 14, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants have added a new independent claim 21 that incorporates the elements of claims 1, 3, and 11.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (313) 665-4969.

Respectfully submitted,

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